

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 065508

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO WHITE HOUSE

S E C R E T STATE 065508

EXDIS TOSEC 983

WHITE HOUSE PLEASE PASS TO SAM 86970

FOL ASWAN 0288 SENT ACTION SECSTATE CAIRO MARCH 23; REPEATED
TO YOU QUOTE

S E C R E T USDEL ASWAN 0288

EXDIS

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR

DEPARTMENT PASS SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: MESSAGE FOR THE SECRETARY

REF: SECTO 490 (JERUSALEM 667)

1. DEAR MR. SECRETARY:

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PAGE 02 STATE 065508

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS MESSAGE.

2. YOU ARE RIGHT WHEN YOU SAY THE CAIRO STAFF AND I ARE DEEPLY DISAPPOINTED AT THE TURN OF EVENTS, BUT WE ARE ALSO THE RICHER FOR HAVING PARTICIPATED IN ONE OF THE MOST CHALLENGING DIPLOMATIC ENDEAVORS OF OUR TIME AND TO HAVE BEEN ABLE TO DO SO UNDER YOUR STIMULATING LEADERSHIP. OUR HEARTS ARE WITH YOU IN THIS DIFFICULT MOMENT, SINCE IT IS YOU WHO DOUBTLESS FEEL THE BLOW MOST OF ALL. WITHOUT YOU THERE WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN ANY SUCH ENDEAVOR, NOR WOULD WE HAVE PROGRESSED AS FAR AS WE DID. WHILE THE EFFORT ABORTED ON THIS OCCASION, WE VIEW IT AS A TEMPORARY SETBACK RATHER THAN A DEFEAT. IN MY ALMOST 30 YEARS OF TRYING TO RAMROD MIDDLE EAST AFFAIRS, I AM DEEPLY CONSCIOUS THAT WE HAVE NEVER BEEN SO CLOSE TO A MAJOR BREAKTHROUGH ON THIS SEEMINGLY INTRACTABLE PROBLEM. I PREFER TO BELIEVE THAT OUR GAINS WILL SERVE AS A SPRINGBOARD FOR A FUTURE, HOPEFULLY MORE SUCCESSFUL TRY.

3. YOU HAVE THE UNQUALIFIED LOYALTY, DEDICATION AND ESTEEM OF THE ENTIRE CAIRO STAFF AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO CONTINUING THE DUAL MISSION OF SOMEHOW MOVING THE ARAB-ISRAELI PROBLEM FORWARD AND OF MAINTAINING AND EXPANDING US-EGYPTIAN RELATIONS WHICH, THANKS TO YOUR INTEREST AND SUPPORT, HAVE MADE SUCH DRAMATIC STRIDES IN THE PAST 16 MONTHS.
EILTS UNQUOTE INGERSOLL

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